# AMERICAN

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WITH A VARIETY OF

RELIQUES, ANTIQUITIES,

AND

MODERN AUTOGRAPHS.

COLLECTED AND EDITED

BY

JOHN JAY SMITH,
MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

AND

JOHN F. WATSON,

ASSISTED BY AN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN ANTIQUARIANS.

SIXTH EDITION; WITH IMPROVEMENTS AND ADDITIONS.

NEW YORK: G. P. PUTNAM. 1861.

### **AMERICAN HISTORICAL CURIOSITIES, Part 3.**

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# AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND LITERARY CURIOSITIES

# By John Jay Smith and John F. Watson

### Part 3.

# PREFACE

TO THE FIFTH EDITION.

FIRST SERIES.

The past has a charm for Americans, as well as for the inhabitants of countries whose history extends far into the shadowy and unknown; our early and romantic past has the merit of being known and truly related; everything which adds to these truths is sought for with avidity by the curious and intelligent inquirer. We have now many autograph collectors, who may be viewed in the light of preservers of documents which would otherwise perish or be dispersed; to few, comparatively, are their treasures revealed. It was suggested, therefore, that a few of the most rare and curious "Historical and Literary Curiosities" in the possession of individuals, should be grouped for the amusement and instruction of the present and of future generations, who may well know from printed accounts what things were done, but who can also thus learn how they were done.

Nearly all the articles in the present collection have been taken by competent artists from the originals of which they purport to be fac-similes. Considerable labor and trouble have been expended in collecting together the varied materials here presented; but it has been with the Editors a "labor of love," rewarded by the pleasure of the pursuit.

The work having been received with extraordinary favor by the public, and a fifth edition being called for, some additions and alterations have been made, which will create increased interest in the volume.

J. JAY SMITH,

JOHN F. WATSON.

\*\*\* Fully to understand the work, it is necessary, in turning over the pages, to have constant reference to the Table of Contents, where will be found many explanations for which space could not be found on the plates.

### NOTE TO THE SIXTH EDITION.

Notwithstanding the announcement in the second series of this work that the first would not be reprinted, the public has demanded a sixth edition, which has been entirely redrawn, and many highly interesting additions have been made.

PHILADELPHIA, October, 1860.

### **Part Three**

- Plate 15.—Bust of William Penn, from an Ivory cutting, by Sylvanus Bevan, a cotemporary of William Penn; now in the possession of Paul Bevan, near London; the original from which the portraits of Penn are taken. Letter of William Penn. In the possession of Benjamin H. Coates, M. D.
- Plate 16. Letter from George Whitfield, speaking of his proposed voyage to America.

  In the possession of J. Jay Smith.
- Plate 17 .- Letter from Kosciusko to Charles Pettit, Esq. In the possession of Professor Henry Read.
- Plates 18 and 19.—Letter from Robert Fulton, and a picture of his first Steamboat.
- Plate 20.—Autograph signatures of the Presidents of the old Continental Congress, 1778; of Presidents of the U. States; of Pizarro, Rip Van Dam, Myles Standish; also of the Salem Witch Judges, the Sheriff who hung them, &c. In possession of F. J. Etting, Esq., J. Wingate Thornton, Esq., and others.
- Plate 21.—Challenge of Baron Steuben to General Lee, in French. See Sparks' American Biography, vol. 9, p. 32.

  In the possession of Henry C. Baird, Esq.
  The Grand Inquest of the city and County of Philadelphia, presenting the great necessity for a Ducking Stool: 1722.

  In the possession of Edward D. Ingraham, Esq.

Plate 15. Plate 16. Plate 17. Plate 18. Plate 19. Plate 20. Plate 21.

From a small wory model in base relieve by Silvanus Bernin contempora vy co William Pena



in the passession of Paul Beron near London. The original Tryin which the Portruits of William Penn have been taken.

WILLIAM PENN

Whilehall 2-10-1702 Jo do hrusby dulare & Promy That I will take no advantage of the Inerns Royall approbation of foll andrew flumlon to be my Liev Gover of Lemsylvania Alonnlys america, m r eference to the ansens Instentions to the governot, of the fayer lower founty after of expiration therof.

My M. M. Real

London March 25 1762

The Sherr had

an inflamation in my Eye added to my former disorders yet I must try to answer your kind letter - By that I find you have been in the furnace of affliction - May for come forth like gold! We must all be tried Thorugh much tribulation we must enter into glory . I believe fou w. not be bellers by coming hither It is eswardly to fly from the foot - If the Redeemer spares me I have thoughts of taking an american Vryage Who haves but we may meet once more on thy sike Tortan ? Lord Jesus help us in all things to say, not my will but thine be some I can as get preach but twice or thrice a week - Aut the Redeemer is able to do more for me - Throw you will pray that He may-

> fourt ge in our Common Redumer Ghilfield

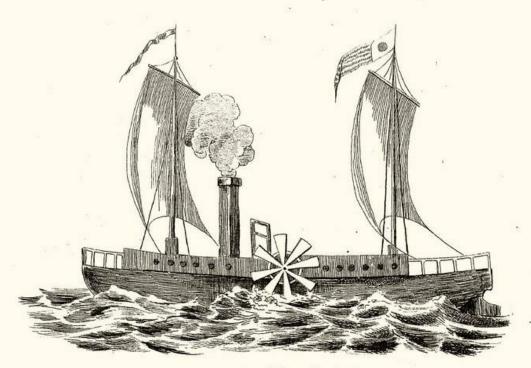
Dear in Thilad elpha 10 Same durest way not subject to phanges and others lir cumstances, and that y may I received you forour of this day and I raw regularly procent due from land you my warment thanh \_ this Lume I beg you was to kind for an half how a personal conversation Bank of the United States, or upon a with you of you can only support a walk browned or other wery with the many in the room Jean to even to move from how to doit in what maner you belie one place to the other wellout the support in god to reley upon you as able and help of my butches and a servant you your Pharacter, and friend that The business upon which I would ask jourtsoffs which you honour me advice is of pecuniony kind. I want to with Perfect Estim and lay Monay upon interest but in the Present my kipse regard brownth the support with the part of the formally to your formally to pour lay to the formally the pour to the formally to your formally to pour lay to formally to your formally your formally to your formally to your formally to you your forma

To No. Fulwer Shipwith

Soi the expense of a patent in france is 300 Levers for 3 years 800 Do for 10 years and 1500 D. for 15 years, there can be no difficulty in obtaining a patent for the mode of propelling a boot which you have Theron one but of the author of the model wishes lobe assured of the ments of his invention before he goes to the expense of a patent. I advise him to make a model of a boat In which he can place a clock spring which will give about a Revolutions he can then combine the movements as to Try oars, puddles, and the leaves which he proposes if he finds that the leaves drive the boat a greater distance in the same time than either bars or Raddles et consequently are a better application of power - about Eyears age the Earl of stanhope tried an experiment on similar leaves In greenland back London but without sucess - Thave also truck appeaments on semilar leaves. Wheels, ours, puddles, and flyars similar to those of a smooth Jacks and found ours to be the best; The Velocity with which a boot moves, is on proportion is the sam of the surfaces of the ours poddles heres or other machine, is to the bow of the boot presented to the water, and in proportion to the Bower with which such machinery is put In motion, Lence of the sam of the sarfaces of the vars on equal to the to the sum of the Surfaces of the boves and they pass though timelar curves in the same time, the affect must be the Same but ours have this advantage they return through air to make a second Stroke and hence create very little resistance; whereas the haves return through water and add considerabely to the resistance which

resistance is increised as the Vetouty of the boat is augmented; no hend of machinery can create power all that can be done is to apply the manual, or other power to the best advantage 
If the author of the model is final of mechanics he will be much amused and not loose his time by trying the experiments on the manner I propere and the perhaps is the most prevalent measure, before a potent is taken

Jam In moth much Respect
yours Robs Sulton



Fultons Steamboal

(Integraphs of the Presidents of the Old Continental Congress 1774-1778. hom Reap Rendents John Slansongs Richard Henry See North anief Gorham Fresid in Mintington Trefident Presidents of the United States. James Buchanan Myles Standishy Salem Witch Judges. Red Salem June 13 1738 of Mr Fillip Burtho Gooney pritt ling & omfule of all dect conge forwin Therif Appointed by the Court to examine Witches in 1692, to see if they had any preternatural appearances on their bodies. Ch pratie of male. 1715 Samuel Sewall

### Challenge of Baron Steuben to Gen! Lee.

Monfieus! He m'est sevence que dans Votre deferhe Vous Vous etes permis, à mon fajes des Resperons inda grater Je me fins hate obt venis a Philadelphie pour m'en eclaisees, et je trouve le rapport Con pime pas le jouenal de la Cous Marteale que m'est parvenue depius un heure, on je les le paragraphe favante. Of all very distant Prectators etc. In la la very distant Prectators etc. In des long temps faite; je me ferai mis au desfus de vos l'orgenammes et le aures mesprifé - mais je fuis ici litanges. Vous m'avez offluse , je vous en demans a Raifon.

Vous Choifires le Lieur le temps et les Armes mais comme je n'aima a être Grectateus ri cloigni ni tardit; je vou demande de vous vois aurof pie et aussi tot que prospéle.

Mi le lagis! Walter qui vous remette la parfunte m'informer de vos resolutions je fuis

Chiladelphie Walter qui vous remette la parfunte m'informer de vos resolutions je fuis

Chiladelphie Vohe tes humble servates

Chiladelphie Vohe tes humble servates

Chiladelphie Vohe tes humble servates

gety Philad a

The Goand Junust We Tadwing in Confideration the past Difadery of the Surfulent and ile Behavior of many beople in this City we prefer the Great Veginsity of a Ducking Stool for such people according to their Defects

Signed by the Soreman for himfold & Brithern

Sout Juffield

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